South Scituate, Mass.

My Dear Friend. Jan. 9. 1842.

On the 1st day of the year, we had a grand meeting of our cold water Army, in my meeting house. The Pulpit and other parts of the house were tastefully decorated with Temperance banners. A platform was raised in front of the pulpit, and twelve of our youth spoke temperance pieces. They acquitted themselves very much better than I expected. The speaking was interspersed with appropriate songs — and the whole passed off to my entire satisfaction — and to the great delight of the whole people old as well as young.

Now I am thinking of enlisting the babes and sucklings in the same way, in the anti slavery cause. I propose to get the best speakers in the town — 12 or 20 of them — to commit as many of our most stirring anti slavery effusions and, sometime in the course of February, have a meeting like that on the 1st ult.

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Now if I carry this plan into execution, I shall need your and your sister's aid. And as you have nothing else to do I feel of course, no hesitation in calling upon you. I wish you to assist me to devise suitable decorations — that there may be appeals to the hearts of all who may come to our meeting — to those who are reached through their eyes, as well as those whose hearts are nearest to their ears. — Whatever you contribute, together with what we purpose among ourselves, may be useful elsewhere as well as here, if this plan is found to work well as I mean it shall.

Yours affectionately

Samuel J. May

What say you?

So Scituate Mass
Jan 10

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Mrs Maria W. Chapman.

Boston.

Oct 1848
Boston
A. S. Chapman
Oct S. Chapman

M.A.P.3.17.24